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## BIG FOUR MEETING PROBABLE

### Soviet Expected To Agree To Holding Of Preliminary Talks

#### COMMENT

Peking knows that the alliance with Russia is unpopular except among the zealots. It naturally hails Stalin's recent statement as "enthusiastic support for the Chinese and Korean peoples." While the Chinese troops are paying the price in Korea, words were the least Moscow could offer.

The free world at any rate has grown weary of mere words and wants some of the peace professions transformed into deeds. The Russian word for peace (*mir*) also means other things more in keeping with Communist policy, and Communist doctrine.

Apart from its use for domestic consumption in Russia and China, Stalin's statement was a lead to still another of the Warsaw "peace conferences"—this time of the Communist World Federation of Trade Unions.

At the last Warsaw Congress in November each delegate was required to state his views in writing on his ballot paper when voting for the Communist resolution. Naturally there was "complete unanimity."

When the manifesto was reduced to its plain meaning it required as the first condition the unconditional handing over to Communist control of Korea, Formosa and Indo-China.

It required also the removal from Japan of forces likely to obstruct the expansion of Communist influence, and the inclusion of Western Germany in the Soviet Satellite Empire.

The special law demanded by the Warsaw Congress for the defence of peace meant legislation to cut off subject peoples from all free sources of information, and to force upon them only the ideas and ways of thought which are totally subservient to the Kremlin.

And the disarmament proposals amount to a demand that the Soviet should keep her present military preponderance over the free world; while the demand for better cultural relations merely meant greater facilities for Soviet propagandists. These points are, in fact, Soviet policy as shown in practice. The free world does want peace, not war. But not that sort of peace.

## New Feeling Of Confidence Apparent In The West

British and French Government quarters were confident last night that Russia would accept—possibly with some reservations—the West's invitation for a preliminary four-power meeting in Paris on March 5.

British and French diplomats believed that the Russians, having originated the idea of another four-power parley, are not likely to back out now despite the latest blast against the West by Marshal Stalin in his week-end interview with Pravda.

London, Feb. 20.

## CABINET CRISIS IN GREECE

Athens, Feb. 20.

The Greek Prime Minister, M. Venizelos, is expected to cut short a tour of Epirus and return to Athens tomorrow to face a Government crisis.

He will be received by the King. The crisis loomed tonight when M. Panayotis Canelopoulos told Parliament that his Populist-Unionist Party would withdraw support from the Government. It has 37 deputies.

M. Venizelos' coalition of Liberals and Democratic Socialist holds 100 seats out of 250 in Parliament.

M. Canelopoulos, speaking in Salonika during the week-end, criticised the Government and warned Parliament that unless a stable non-partisan government was formed shortly the country would have to face extra-parliamentary solutions.

His statement provoked an immediate reaction from Government and Parliamentary leaders, who affirmed that no unconstitutional solution would be tolerated.

The new Unionist-Populist Party, formed by a merger of 23 dissident Populist deputies under M. Stefan Stefanopoulos, seven Unionist members led by M. Panayotis Canelopoulos, and some independent deputies, remained outside the Government but gave it its support. The Populists, under M. Constantine Tsaldaris—34—strong now without the 28 dissidents—were in opposition.—Reuter.

## RIOTING IN CALCUTTA

Calcutta, Feb. 20.

Police here broke up with lathi charges and tear-gas a demonstration staged today by refugees from East Bengal. The demonstrators, who were protesting against Government-sponsored legislation seeking the eviction of the refugees and other unauthorised occupants of private houses and Government land, attempted to force their way into the State Legislature, where the measure was being discussed.

The police dispersed the crowd after warning against breaking into the Assembly precincts. Eighty demonstrators were arrested. Calcutta City and its suburbs have an estimated half a million refugees from East Bengal.—Reuter.

But Russia was expected to raise objections against the selection of Washington as a meeting place for the Big Four Foreign Ministers after the deputies agreed on an agenda in Paris.

The Russians are expected to insist in their reply to the new Western note that the choice of the site for the Foreign Ministers' conference be left for decision to the deputies when they meet in Paris.

Western diplomats were looking forward to the new four-power meeting with a new feeling of confidence.

For the first time since the war, the West will be able to sit across from Russia with the full knowledge that its military might is on the increase and that the Western nations are united in their determination to resist aggression.

In their preliminary discussions in Washington, the Western powers were understood to have worked out a clearly defined concept of a joint approach to the new talks with Moscow.

They have agreed to make it clear before the world that the real roots of the current East-West tension are the unbalanced Soviet and Communist charges of alleged unilateral Western rearmament.

One source said: "Now that we have agreed to talk with the Russians, we want to talk frankly about all problems that trouble the world and Russia, if sincere, will be able to prove her designs."

It was evident that the Democracies would insist on a review of the balance of strength with Russia and of the unilateral steps taken by Russia and her satellites to build up military power while the West disarmed.

What the Western diplomats are hoping against is that Russia does not agree to a deputies' meeting only with the idea of turning the Paris session into a propaganda forum.—United Press.

## WASHINGTON VENUE

London, Feb. 20.

A Foreign Office spokesman today denied reports that the Western Powers were willing to compromise on London as the scene of the projected Big Four conference, although Washington is proposed in the note handed to the Soviet Government.

He said that, as far as Britain was concerned, the possibility of agreeing to London rather than Washington had not been contemplated. The report is understood to have arisen from a statement in a London morning paper that London might be proposed instead of Washington to spare Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, a long journey as he is recovering from pneumonia.

Observers here believe that United States opinion firmly favours Washington and would be unwilling to agree to any change.—Reuter.

## Rainfall Record In Britain

London, Feb. 20.

Rain over Britain today set a new record. Rivers and streams burst their banks at more places.

Rainfall so far this month at the Observatory at Kew, near London, has totalled 9.63 centimetres, the most ever recorded and compared with a normal of 2.79 centimetres.

Sir James Scott Watson, chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture, said today that farm cultivation work is a month behind schedule because of the downpours.—Reuter.

## PLEVEN GOVT. MAY BE OUSTED

Paris, Feb. 20.

The French Government, formed by M. Rene Pleven seven months ago, may fall next week because its six groups cannot agree about how deputies shall be elected at the General Election due some time this year.

Various systems have been discussed for months, but none has commanded agreement throughout the Government parties.

The Government is committed to place an electoral reform bill before the National Assembly on Thursday. When the debate ends on Tuesday the vote may determine the Government's fate.

Tomorrow, the Cabinet will decide on which points in the bill they will risk the Government's life by submitting them to confidence votes.

There was still disagreement tonight between Popular Republican Ministers and the others.—Reuter.

## LABOUR SURVIVES BY SEVEN VOTES

### Tory Amendment Defeated

London, Feb. 20.

Britain's Labour Government tonight defeated by seven votes the fourth Conservative attempt to unseat it in a fortnight.

It received 302 votes against 295 when the House of Commons approved a bill authorising the Government to write off a £28,000,000 loss on the East African groundnuts scheme and carry on with a revised £6,000,000 project.

The bill also authorises the Government to cut the development of groundnuts drastically and pass responsibility from the Food Ministry to the Colonial Office.

The three previous confidence votes won by the Government were on meat, steel and defence policy.

The Liberals voted against the Government tonight.

Voting was on a Conservative amendment, moved by Mr Harry Crookshank, refusing to agree to carry on the scheme without an impartial inquiry.

The Food Minister, Mr Maurice Webb, said that when the venture was announced in 1947 it was welcomed everywhere. Anyone could be wise after the event.

The revised scheme could enable new techniques and economics of large-scale farming to be tested, he said.

The Food Corporation was experimenting with growing cotton and tobacco.

Another inquiry would be superfluous, he declared.—Reuter.

## Fuel Crisis Averted?

London, Feb. 20.

Britain's coal output and consumption figures have reached "a state of balance," the Fuel Ministry announced tonight.

If the weather does not worsen, and the efforts to avert fuel are continued and if output is maintained, there is now a reasonable hope that a widespread failure of fuel and power supplies can be avoided it was understood.

The output last week was 10,000 tons down, but consumption dropped 30,000 tons in the last week for which figures are available (ending Feb. 10).

Coal withdrawn from stocks between Feb. 3 and 10 was less than in any week since the beginning of November.—Reuter.

## Miners Entombed

Charleroi, Feb. 20.

Rescue workers are struggling tonight to reach five miners cut off by a cave-in at a pit near here earlier today.—Reuter.



## To Help Eisenhower



A new photograph of the French General Juin who, with Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery, has been appointed to assist General Eisenhower in forming a European army.—Central Press.

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# GREECE AND TURKEY MAY PLAY PART IN MEDITERRANEAN DEFENCE

London, Feb. 20.

Decisions on how to bring Greece and Turkey into active co-operation with the Atlantic Pact powers for the defence of the Mediterranean are likely to be taken within the next few weeks, usually well-informed quarters said here today.

Plans for practical defence measures to make effective last year's nomination of Greece and Turkey as associate members of the Atlantic Pact now depend on two sets of discussions.

1.—Anglo-American defence talks, of which the first have already been held in Malta.

They are to be continued in Malta next month when, according to a usually reliable source, they will make definite recommendations about the function of Greece and Turkey in the defence of the East Mediterranean and the Balkans.

2.—Discussions which General Dwight D. Eisenhower will undertake when he gets down to work at the SHAPE Headquarters.

No binding recommendations either on the functions of Greece and Turkey or on the general defence of the southern flank of the Atlantic Command can be taken without the co-operation and approval of General Eisenhower.

### GREECE'S CALL

Observers here believe that the position of the Eastern Mediterranean and of the Balkans will be one of the first matters to be investigated when he settles down to work in Europe.

There has been no official comment here on the interview granted this week by the Greek Prime Minister, M. Sophocles Venizelos, to a London newspaper correspondent in which he stressed the need to build up the defences of Greece in the face of Cominform rearmament.

But it is understood that this point of view has continually been expressed by the Greek authorities to the United States and British Military Missions in Athens and the need is being taken seriously by both Governments.—Reuter.

### GEN. ROBERTSON IN ISRAEL

Tel-Aviv, Feb. 20.

General Sir Brian Robertson, British Land Forces Commander in the Middle East, saw the Israeli President, Dr Chaim Weizmann, today and stayed with him nearly an hour.

The General, who is touring Middle East countries, expects to end his three-day visit to Israel on Thursday and return to Fayid, in the Suez Canal zone.

He also inspected army camps and saw recruits training today.

The Communist League for Peace held a protest meeting. Communist and Left-wing newspapers continued their campaign against his visit, the purpose of which they claimed was to include Israel in an anti-Soviet Mediterranean bloc.—Reuter.

## Seagull Delays Record Attempt

Aldergrove, Northern

Ireland, Feb. 20.

A seagull today delayed the take-off of the world's first jet bomber, the Canberra, on a projected world-breaking attempt across the Atlantic.

The twin-engined Canberra, due to fly to Gander, Newfoundland, struck the gull during its flight here from Warton, Lancashire. The gull made a small hole in the plane's starboard wing between the engine and the fuselage.

"Repair work is proceeding," an official of the British Air Ministry in London said, "but it is not expected that the plane will take off to-night."—Reuter.

## Funeral Of Miss Betty Graham

San Francisco, Feb. 20.

Peking Radio said tonight that Betty Graham, described as a progressive American journalist, was on Sunday buried in the Sanctuary of Eternal Repose, Western Hills, Peking, following her death on Feb. 12 in the capital's Central People's Hospital.

Mr Chiao Kuan-hua, Director of the China Information Bureau, addressed the large funeral gathering, according to the broadcast.

He said that the late Betty Graham was "one of the few who was able to come to join our work and she lived the hard life of struggle we had to live."

He said that her work had shown that friendship between the American and Chinese people could not be prevented from growing. Here was a moving example of internationalism. Her name would never be forgotten in China.—Reuter.

## THE FUNNY LOOK OFFENDED

Sydney, Feb. 20.

An "hypnotic stare" gets men in trouble on Sydney beaches, a police official explained today to outraged Sydney women. The women were upset by a court ruling on Monday in which a man was fined £5 for "offensive behaviour" on the beach. The arresting officer testified that the culprit stared at women in bathing costumes.

"What's wrong with that?" asked Jane Moore, willowy typist. "It would be terrible if men stopped looking at us."

She was supported in this view by the Sydney Surf Lifesaver Association. "The girls encourage men by parading up and down the beaches in scanty costumes," lifeguard Peter McGill said.

Showgirl Joyce Smith agreed with both opinions. She said, "There are two types of stares" and said that she did not object to being stared at provided that men "don't get that funny look in their eyes."

A spokesman at police headquarters explained the difference. He said, "There are many types of stares, including hypnotic stares and passing stares. Hypnotic stare will get you into trouble. Passing stares are used by most men every day."—United Press.

## Speculation Over Soviet Intentions

Berlin, Feb. 20.

The Russian organ, Taegliche Rundschau, attacked the United Nations today and played up the Communist "World Peace Council" as being "more representative". There was speculation that the Russians may intend to use the Council as an international organisation in case they withdraw from the United Nations.

The paper said "Eighty-one countries support the Warsaw programme. Only 60 nations are represented in the United Nations. The United Nations represents only part of the family of nations and even this part is prejudiced."

Warsaw was the Council's convention site when it was refused permission to meet in Britain. The Council convenes on Wednesday for a four-day meeting in Berlin. The Taegliche Rundschau called the group "the new big power."

The Moscow paper Pravda printed an editorial today in which it repeated the phraseology of Marshal Josef Stalin's comments last week about the United Nations. Pravda said the United Nations was "taking to the inglorious path of the League of Nations."

"Thereby it is burying its moral authority and dooms itself to disintegration."—United Press.

## World Moslem Parley Adopts Resolution

Karachi, Feb. 20.

The World Moslem Conference adopted a resolution here today calling for the establishment, "without further delay," of an Islamic news agency with branches in all important parts of the world.

The 40-nation Conference also resolved to set up a "Moslem World Union of Journalists," comprising the representatives of the Press from all Moslem States to promote "better understanding between the various Moslem countries."

The resolution on the agency declared: "As world news agencies are controlled by non-

Moslems and the Moslem point of view is either deliberately suppressed or overlooked through carelessness or ignorance, it is hereby resolved that an Islamic news agency should be started without further delay with branches in all important places in the world."—Reuter.



# STATEMENT BY MACARTHUR

## Obvious Effort To Restore Harmony In Democratic Camp Expected To Calm Fears On 38th Parallel Issue

Tokyo, Feb. 20.

General MacArthur's statement in Korea today that he would not arbitrarily order the United Nations troops across the 38th Parallel was interpreted here as an obvious effort by the United States to restore complete harmony in the democratic camp.

It appeared that one of the reasons for General MacArthur's trip to Korea—if not the main reason—was for the purpose of making this statement in the front lines where the drama of the situation would emphasise the point he wanted to get across.

The statement was expected to calm some fears which had been expressed in high British circles, and tended to confirm reports that there would be a general round-table discussion of the question before the United Nations forces again cross the line which formerly divided North and South Korea.

General MacArthur's statement was considered in some circles here as a clear indication that he was on good working terms with President Truman and the Defence Department.

The same persons believed he probably assured the statement after consultation with them—perhaps at their suggestion.

Observers here who know General MacArthur were interested in the observations of the supreme commander on Generalissimo Stalin's statements in Pravda.

General MacArthur considers the Russian Premier his personal and chief obstacle in his war against the Communists.

To these observers it seemed certain that General MacArthur could not resist the temptation to let Stalin know that the United Nations forces in Korea were doing all right.—United Press.

### ON HAN RIVER

Tokyo, Feb. 20.

British and American troops today ranged along the snow-covered southern banks of the Han River bordering the South Korean capital of Seoul, searching for enemy pockets of resistance and consolidating their positions.

On the central front, Negro troops led by tanks streamed unopposed into Chuchon, hub of the last North Korean salient

on the new United Nations line.

Elsewhere along the front it was reported "all quiet."

General Douglas MacArthur told newspaper correspondents at Wonju, on the central front, that he had "just directed a resumption of the initiative by our forces."

Four American soldiers returned to the United Nations line on the western front tonight after escaping from their Chinese Communist captors. They had been captured on the Wonju front.

The soldiers' names have not yet been released.—Reuter

### British Steel Prices Up

London, Feb. 20.

Price increases for iron and steel were announced today—five days after the industry came under State control.

The new prices apply from tomorrow, the Ministry of Supply announced.

The increases, which were expected, are mainly due to rises in the cost of coal and coke.

Examples of the increases are basic pig iron up from £10.11s.6d. a ton to £10.19s. and cold rolled steel strip up from £33 a ton to £33.12s.6d.—Reuter.

## Accused Officer's Wife In Tears At Court Martial

Graz, Austria, Feb. 20.

Neville Napier, 32, former British army officer accused before a British military court of passing information about the British forces, today agreed that he had answered questions about military matters.

But he asserted that he had never passed military information to anyone outside his sphere of duty when working for the Railway Transport Office at Judenberg.

While Napier gave evidence, his red-haired Austrian wife sobbed uncontrollably.

Earlier, a confessed Austrian spy for Czechoslovakia, Franz Reicher, who is under arrest, had alleged that he twice received documents from Napier.

Napier had refused to supply documents which came from any British office, Reicher added. He had told Napier he was giving the information to a Press agency.

Napier's counsel, Mr. M. B. Sykes, said that Napier had genuinely believed that he was being employed by some sort of Press agency.

Further, he said, the information which Napier was giving was of no value or if it had any value it was a negative one as it was inaccurate.

For the prosecution, Colonel M. J. Conway, Chief Signals

Officer with the British troops in Austria, said that two documents alleged to have been passed to spy suspects by Napier describing a signal platoon and communications lay-out were partly obsolete but definitely of value to a foreign power.

The last prosecution witness was the petite Maria Vognina, 21, whose denunciation of Reicher to the police as an alleged drug trafficker led to the trial.

She said she had twice taken "something" from Reicher to Napier and "something" from Napier to Reicher but did not know what it was.

Asked if she knew that Reicher was trying to deceive Napier, she replied, "Yes, it was all a lie."

The court will sit again tomorrow when the verdict is expected.—Reuter.

## The West's Superiority In Moral Values

London, Feb. 20.

The United States Ambassador to Britain, Mr. Walter S. Gifford, said here today that the Western world's moral and material resources were superior to Russia's.

"The free nations possess a great superiority not only in moral and spiritual values and ability, but also in manpower, skills, shipping and industrial production," he told a luncheon meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce.

"Our job at the moment is to make certain that the available resources will be mobilised quickly and utilised fully. The strength is there."

The necessary process of belt-tightening would pinch and pinch very hard on both sides of the Atlantic, but the people would accept the burdens with the knowledge that the purpose was to prevent a still most costly war.

Referring to price control in the United States, Mr. Gifford said he had just had word from Washington saying that the Office of Price Stabilisation was interested in seeing a continued flow of imports, "especially those needed for our defence programme."

The United States Government did not wish to impede or impair dollar earnings which are so essential to the strength of the free world.—Reuter.

## Renewal Of Wage Boost Demands

Washington, Feb. 20.

Organised labour today renewed its demand for a 12 per cent wage increase over pre-Korea levels plus any further adjustments necessary to match future living cost increases.

Leaders of the United Labour Policy Committee put their demand up to the Economic Stabiliser, Mr. Eric Johnston, who has on his desk the wage formula adopted by public and industry members last week. The formula would permit a 10 per cent boost over Jan. 15, 1950.

The meeting with Mr. Johnston was the first in a series proposed by President Truman as a means of settling labour's complaints about its role in the mobilisation programme.

Mr. Johnston thinks he has the right to modify the wage formula if he chose, but he did not commit himself on what he would do. He had held a very frank discussion with union leaders and told them there would be mutual sacrifices by labour, business and agriculture.—United Press.



Mass meetings of London dockers have been held on several occasions in the past few weeks to discuss the latest labour dispute. At this meeting, held in Victoria Park, London, Mr. Walter Jones (above), Chairman of the meeting, spoke to the dockers.—Central Press.

## Lesson Of Recent Weeks In Korea

London, Feb. 20.

The Defence Minister, Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, said today that events in Korea in the last few weeks had shown, beyond all doubts, that the Chinese Communist and North Korean forces can be checked and mastered.

The latest information indicated that the Chinese Communist counter-offensive had now been halted, he told the House of Commons in a statement.

The military situation was far more favourable than seemed possible a short time ago. But he warned that the perils confronting the United Nations forces were still formidable and occasional difficulties might emerge.

Mr. Shinwell said that Britain's total casualties in Korea were 145 killed, 442 wounded, 244 missing and 61 prisoners.

American casualties at 48,035, including 8,154 killed, were severe, he said. "I know the House would wish me to pay a well-deserved tribute to the troops of our American allies

who are bearing the main burden of the fighting," he added. Ships of the Commonwealth navies with air cover from the British aircraft carrier, *Thesous*, were now giving fine support to the United Nations forces in the area between the Han River and the west coast.

Mr. Shinwell said the Commonwealth 27th Brigade played a large part in restoring the situation in the Wonju area by relieving the mixed French-American force which had been cut off at Chipyong.

Most valuable help had been given by the contingents of Belgium, Australia, Canada, France, Greece, The Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand and Turkey, he said.—Reuter.

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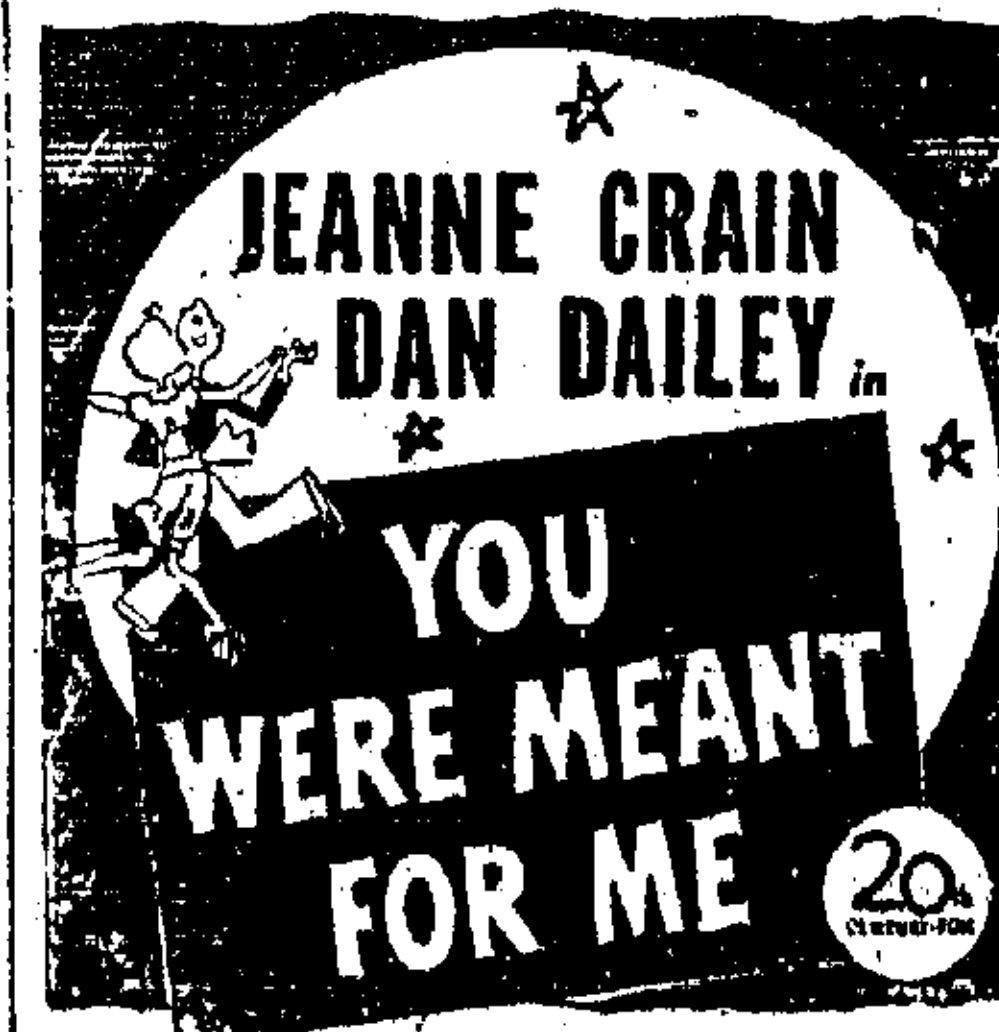
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# India Will Reject Compromise In Kashmir Issue

## A Queen Inspects Red Cross Men



Queen Louise of Sweden inspecting a section of the Swedish Red Cross before it left Stockholm for service in Korea.—Central Press

## Kashmir Issue

### Security Council To Open Third Debate

London, Feb. 20.

Informed sources said today India had indicated it will reject the Anglo-American compromise resolution on Kashmir, which is to be put before the United Nations Security Council on Wednesday.

These informants said both India and Pakistan had been given copies of the resolution, and that India opposed it on grounds that it was based on a plebiscite in Kashmir.

Mr Nehru had said previously he would not accept a plebiscite in the predominantly Moslem State.

The Anglo-American resolution carried the plebiscite idea "one step further," informants said, by suggesting three separate plebiscites in Kashmir—in Indian-occupied territory, in the area controlled by Pakistan, and in the unoccupied Vale of Kashmir.

Indian sources said the Indian Premier attacked the "inconsistency" of the United Nations majority for "showing readiness to brand the aggressor in Korea but not in Kashmir."

According to Indian sources, the report by Sir Owen Dixon, the mediator in Kashmir, makes it clear that Pakistan was the aggressor in Kashmir. The report was to be given to the Security Council on Wednesday in conjunction with the debate on Kashmir.—United Press.

Lake Success, Feb. 20.

The United Nations Security Council will begin at 8 p.m. GMT. on Wednesday (4 a.m. Thursday, Hongkong time) its new debate on Kashmir—the third in three years—with hopes that the simmering Indo-Pakistan dispute will finally be solved and that complete peace and tranquillity will be re-established in that strategic area at the confluence of the Soviet and Chinese borders.

The Council's hopes to arrive at a solution of the thorny problem are based on an Anglo-American draft resolution which, backed by the two delegations—with possibly broader sponsorship—will be tabled when the Council convenes under the chairmanship of Jean Chauvel of France.

The text of the resolution was still a secret 24 hours before the meeting, but informed quarters said the document seeks to provide a formula for the demilitarisation of Jammu and Kashmir prior to holding the plebiscite recommended by the Council two years ago.

It is expected M. Chauvel will open the session with the formal introduction of the report by Sir Owen Dixon, the Australian jurist who acted until last September as United Nations representative for Kashmir endeavouring to arrange for the demilitarisation of the area.

Sir Owen resigned when he became convinced that the deadlock on the question was unbreakable because of the refusal of India and Pakistan to comply with principle, approved by the Council, that all regular Pakistani troops should be withdrawn from the area and that the same should be done with the "regular forces of India not required for purposes of security."—United Press.

### Consulate Closed

Baden-Baden,

French Zone, Feb. 20.

The last Polish Consulate in Western Germany closed down today when the Vice-Consul, M. Zygmunt Podgorski, announced his resignation.

He will not return to Poland. The Consul, Dr Jerzy Rzejezewski, made a similar announcement last night.—Reuter.

## IMPORTANT JUDGMENT ON CLAIMS

Frankfurt, Feb. 20.

An American Court has ruled for the first time that claims may be upheld against the German Reich for the return of property confiscated by the Nazis.

A statement by the American High Commission yesterday described as "significant" the judgment which also held that "the German nation never ceased to exist despite the unconditional surrender and the four-power occupation."

The judgment, by the United States Court of Restitution Appeals, restored to Mrs. Martha Kaufman, of Edinburgh, Scotland, her right to a mortgage in Frankfurt that the Nazis had seized during the war.

The American statement said that the judgment was important because of the large number of similar claims, running into millions of German marks, that had still to be decided.—Reuter.

## Refusal To Halt Executions

Washington, Feb. 20.

The United States Court of Appeals refused today to halt the scheduled execution in Germany of seven convicted Nazi war criminals.

The Court upheld a ruling by a United States District Judge who refused last week to free the seven on a writ of habeas corpus. But the Court of Appeals left the way open for attorneys for the seven to carry the case to the Supreme Court. It did this by directing that its mandate (order to the Lower Court) be issued on Friday.

The District Judge ruled that Federal Court in the United States had no jurisdiction over sentences imposed by military tribunals in enemy-occupied territory. The Appeal Court did not discuss this point, merely affirming the District Judge's ruling.—Reuter.

## West Germans Told To Tighten Up

Bonn, Feb. 20.

The United States Marshall Plan Administrator, Mr William Foster, has told West German Ministers that they must cut public consumption of "non-essentials" or else drastically tighten up the import liberalisation programme, according to German sources today.

He believed that two credits granted to West Germany under the European Payments Union would probably be exhausted before the end of March.

Mr Foster conferred with West German Ministers here last week.—Reuter.

## Stirring Up Trouble Behind Iron Curtain

Washington, Feb. 20.

A Georgetown University professor told Senators today that a fifth column of anti-Communist Russians was infiltrating the Red Army and stirring up trouble behind the Iron Curtain.

Dr Leo Dobriansky urged the United States to exploit this situation by backing the dissident Russian group. He complained to the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees that up to now the American government's central intelligence agency and the "Voice of America" had largely neglected this opportunity.

The Senators, who are considering the issue of troops to Europe, endorsed Dr Dobriansky's plea.

Senator William Knowland (Republican) said large numbers of dissatisfied, freedom-loving groups inside Russia represented perhaps a more effective "secret weapon" than the atomic bomb.

While reporting an underground movement of unstated proportions, Dr Dobriansky also urged that no limit be placed by Congress on the number of American troops that could be sent to Europe for a unified Western European Army.

Other witnesses attacked or defended the idea of sending troops to Europe. Mr C. B. Baldwin, secretary of the Progressive Party and manager of Mr Henry Wallace's 1948 presidential campaign, said the Americans were being manoeuvred "from crisis to crisis" by leaders who offered "no alternatives to war".

Senator Theodore Green (Democrat) suggested that Mr Baldwin's views checked closely with some of Marshal Josef Stalin's.—United Press.

## MacArthur Wrote On Plain Paper

Central Korean Front, Feb. 20.

General MacArthur wrote his dramatic "resume the initiative" over Tuesday on the central Korean front in 20 minutes on plain G.I. paper.

The General sat in a quonset hut, while correspondents waited outside. He then summoned the correspondents and said: "I have anticipated a few of the questions you will ask, and I have prepared the following statement."

On the Supreme Commander's visit to French battalion, he set a swift pace for his party across two ditches in ankle-deep mud.

A young French officer was decorated for his bravery in the recent Chipyong-ni action, patted on the back, and told, "That's the spirit of the French."—United Press.

## Red Hecklers At Nepal Meeting

Khatmandu, Feb. 20.

Communist hecklers attempted to create a disturbance at a public meeting here yesterday which was addressed by Mr M. P. Koirala, the President of the Nepali Congress.

Communists also distributed leaflets which charged King Tribhuvan with being a "stooge" of the Indian Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, whom the leaflets described as an "agent of capitalist America."

The leaflets called on the people not to place any faith in political reforms announced on Sunday, and said that the lot of the suffering masses of Nepal could be improved only with the establishment of "Kisan Mazdoor Raj" (peasant labour rule).—Reuter.

## Ship Sinks In The Channel

St. Nazaire, Feb. 20.

The 1,595-ton Norwegian ship Marga was reported to have sunk in a gale off the rugged coast of Brittany today and ships in the area rushed to search for survivors.

A message picked up by a St. Nazaire radio operator said another ship, the Lionel, had picked up one survivor from the Marga.—United Press.

## Nationalisation Of Burma Land

Rangoon, Feb. 20.

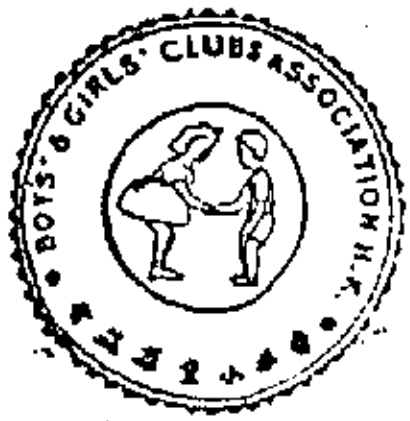
Burma intends to go ahead with land nationalisation—but slowly so as not to jeopardise national minorities, the Minister for Agriculture, Bo Khin Maung Gale, said here today.

He warned farmers that if they failed to pay up their land dues for 1949-50, they would lose Government sympathy.

The Minister said that the Government had written off land arrears of revenue and agricultural loans for 1948-49 amounting to nearly seven-and-a-half crores of rupees. (A crore is 10 million rupees).—Reuter.



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# MR ACHESON PLEADS FOR INDIA

## Support For President Truman's Proposals For Food Relief Grains Requested From U.S. Should Begin To Move Soon

Washington, Feb. 20.

The US Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, said today that the Indian Government was "striving to restore peace" in the Far East and to prevent the Korean war from spreading.

Mr Acheson appeared before the House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee to support President Truman's proposals for food relief for India.

He acknowledged differences of opinion between India and the United States on Asia, but added: "We are also convinced that the Indian Government has the right to make its own independent judgment on the proposals advanced by the United States and the United Nations."

He said he was convinced that the United States and United Nations policy in Asia was correct but differences of opinion had nothing to do with "our feelings towards the people of India."

Mr Acheson emphasised that it was "a fundamental American principle" that human need overrode political differences.

"We face frankly the fact that there exist some important political differences between our Government and the Government of India," Mr Acheson said.

"Both Governments have been striving to restore peace in the Far East and to prevent an extension of the Korean conflict to other areas. We have differed as to the most effective way of achieving these objectives."

Mr Acheson said that the United States Government was convinced that the measures which it proposed and which the United Nations General Assembly adopted provided the most effective means to restrain aggression in Asia.

"We are also convinced that the Indian Government is entitled to make its own independent judgments on these and other matters which concern it."

### THREAT OF HUNGER

"The fact that these judgments sometimes differ from ours has nothing whatsoever to do with our feelings towards the people of India or our humanitarian desire to help avert the dread threat of hunger which overhangs them."

Mr Acheson said that the grains especially requested from the United States should begin to move as soon as possible and in no case later than April 1.

"We would hope that approximately one million tons could be delivered in India before August in order to meet the most critical period of food shortages beginning in mid-summer and continuing into the fall (autumn)," he said.

Replying to India's suggestion that the grain should be obtained on a long-term credit, Mr Acheson said that American studies showed that India could not pay for the two million tons of grains she needed without dipping heavily into its sterling balances with Britain.

These balances, he said, provided the greater part of the backing for India's currency and

the working funds used to finance its normal volume of international transactions. They were almost the only source of accumulated funds available for essential economic development.

In addition, India's six-year programme for economic development under the Commonwealth's Colombo Plan provided for the use of a substantial portion of the sterling balances.

If they were used to finance the purchase of two million tons of grain the funds available for development and other essential purposes would be correspondingly reduced.

He noted that India and Pakistan were unable to reach agreement on a price for surplus Pakistan grain last year and it was later sold elsewhere.

### PAKISTAN SURPLUSES

He said the magnitude of possible Pakistan surpluses which might be available for purchase by India this year were not now certain. "Whatever the surpluses may be, we should certainly expect that, in view of the urgent human need, India and Pakistan will exhaust every possibility of arranging for their acquisition by India," Mr Acheson added. "We must not, however, lose sight of the fact that the Indian need is far greater than any possible Pakistan surpluses."

Mr Acheson said that the United States had not provided food to India early because no arrangement satisfactory to both countries could be found in the discussions which began more than a year ago.

He declared that India was not faced with a critical emergency when these talks began. The sales of surplus sorghums grain at below parity late last year were, unfortunately, wholly inadequate to meet India's present food crisis, he said.

He explained that it was the intention of the United States Government that appropriations for the food relief should be made in two stages.

The first should be sufficient to buy one million tons. The timing of the second appropriation—one million tons—and the amount required could be determined after further study and in the light of new developments, he said.—Reuter.

### GIFT FAVOURED

Washington, Feb. 20.

Virtually every member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee went on record today as favouring the gift of 2,000,000 tons of grain to India, but several members of the minority party said they did so with serious "mental reservations" about the wisdom of aiding a country which is firmly opposed to American policy in Asia.

Their attitude became known during the question of Secretary of State Dean Acheson who appeared before the Committee to urge speedy United States aid.

Representative Charles Eaton, of New Jersey, a ranking Republican member of the Committee, said: "I agree we must send the food; but I would like to get something in return."

Declaring he would vote for the aid bill although he was not wildly enthusiastic about it, Mr Eaton said, "The attitude of these Asians toward us has been very ungenerous."

Republicans Carroll Reece, of Tennessee, and John Vorys, of Ohio, were two other committee members who were critical of the idea of extending aid to a country which sides against the United States on the Korean question.

Mr Reece said he would find "it hard to support expenditure for those who might in the long run stand against us."

Mr Vorys contended India, with the wealth of strategic materials needed by the United States, such as molybdenum, thorium and manganese, "should be able ... to repay us over a period of years instead of taking an outright gift."

Mr Acheson, replying to Mr Reece, denied that India was "hostile" to the United States. He said: "The fact that the Indians have taken a different position (on Korea) does not mean they are hostile. I disagree with this position. ... I think they are quite wrong. But I do not think their attitude came from hostility."—United Press.

### No More Drawing On Canada Credit

London, Feb. 20.

Britain is not to draw any further on a dollar credit which Canada made available in 1946, Mr Hugh Gaitskell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced today. The Canadian Government was told of this decision yesterday, he informed the House of Commons.

Mr Gaitskell said that Canada granted a credit of \$1,250 million in May, 1946, expiring on December 31, 1951. Of this credit \$65 million had not been used. Drawings have been suspended since last June.

After discussions in Ottawa between the British High Commissioner and the Canadian Government, the British Government had decided it would not draw any further on this credit, Mr Gaitskell said.—Reuter.

### Orphan Girl To Return To Russia

Brussels, Feb. 20.

The Belgian Government decided today to allow a 13-year-old Ukrainian girl refugee to return to Russia. The Catholic welfare organisation, Caritas, which brought her to Belgium on Nov. 30, alleged that she was kidnapped the same day.

She has been in the Soviet Embassy's care since then.

Caritas described her as an orphan named Nina Davidovna, from a displaced persons' camp in Germany.

The Soviet Press Attache, M. Meladze, told a Press conference that her real name was Zvereva. She suffered from epileptic fits and was in urgent need of medical attention, he said.

He said that Nina was found crying in a Brussels street and taken to the Embassy by civilians who believed that they were doing their duty.—Reuter.

## Free World Alliance Against Communism: Istanbul Conference

Istanbul, Turkey, Feb. 20.

United States Admiral Robert Carney said today he favoured the inclusion of every anti-Communist country on earth in a free world alliance against Communism.

Asked if Iran, Turkey and Greece should be brought into the Atlantic pact, Admiral Carney said at a Press conference: "It is my personal opinion that every country resisting Communism must sooner or later become part of that great world organisation fighting against it. ... I do not believe war is inevitable if we can maintain ourselves sufficiently strong to make it unprofitable."

Admiral Carney, Commander of the United States naval forces in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, has been serving for the past week as consultant at the meeting of United States Middle Eastern diplomats here.

Informed sources said Admiral Carney would give General Dwight Eisenhower, who arrives in France tomorrow, a briefing on the Istanbul conference.

Admiral Carney said: "This type of conference has created a milestone. The exchange of views included Washington thinking as well as defensive and security problems—which would normally be given to the military to analyse—combined with political and economic

problems of the associated countries. Very definitely great progress has been made at the conference."

Admiral Carney, who has represented the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff here, will fly back to his London headquarters on Wednesday at the end of the week-long conference held in a top secret atmosphere under heavy guard.—United Press.

### Illegal Exit From American Zone

Munich, Feb. 20.

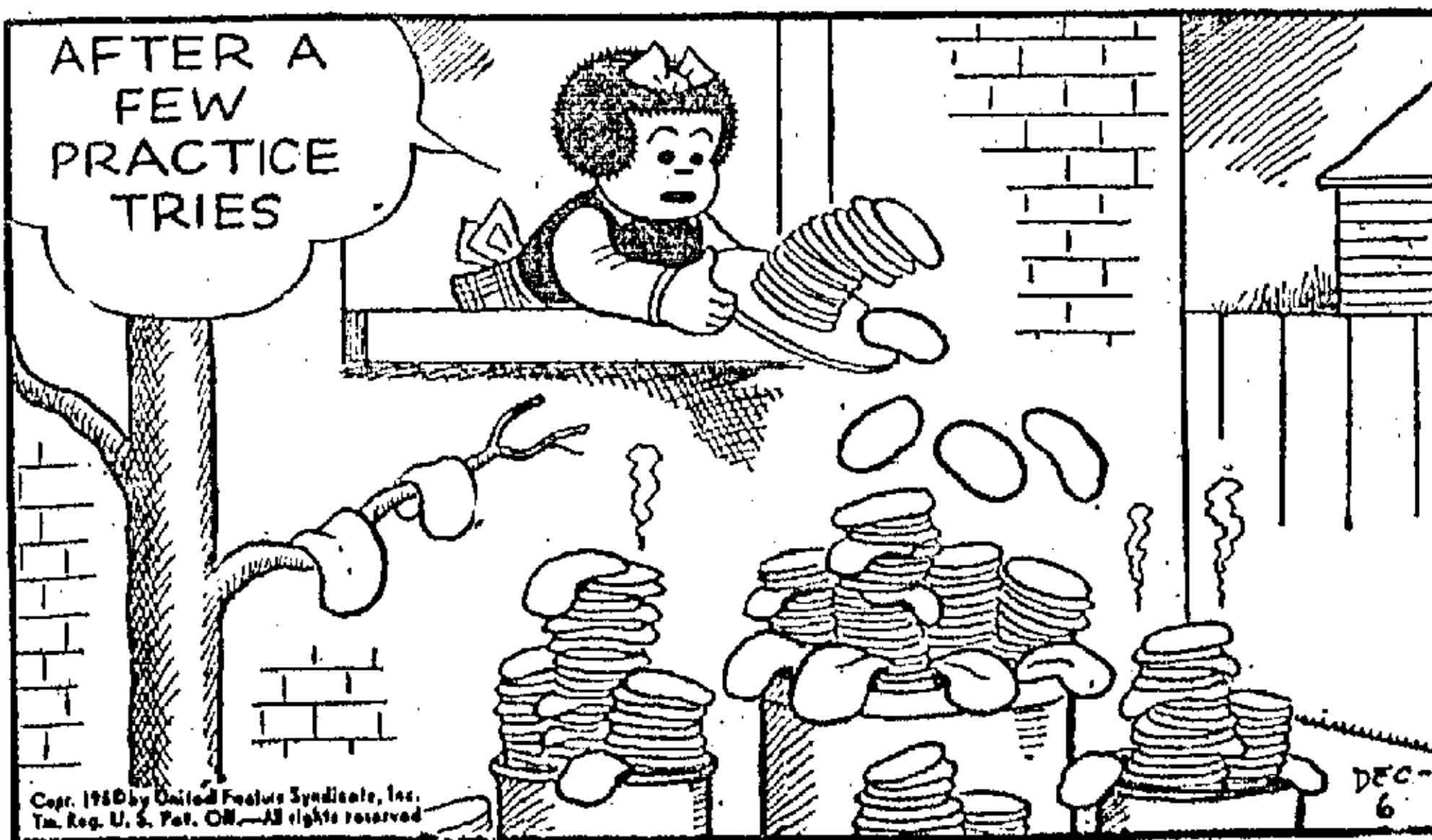
The number of people trying illegally to leave the American Zone of Germany across the Bavarian borders rose last month while the number trying to enter fell, an American High Commission statement said here today.

Bavaria borders Czechoslovakia, part of the Soviet Zone of Germany, Austria and part of the French Zone of Germany.

"For every person arrested trying to leave the United States Zone, four were arrested trying to enter. In December the ratio was one to 10," the statement said.—Reuter.

### NANCY

Flap Flops



By Ernie Bushmiller





# THE CORRECT CALL ON THE TOSS OF THE COIN MAY BE WORTH 100 RUNS IN A TEST MATCH

Says PETER DITTON

*Many interesting talking points have arisen as a result of the present England-Australia Test series now being played "down under." Not unnaturally the first question which springs to mind is whether England are anywhere near the standard of Australia.*

They have certainly shown that opposed to a Bradman-less Australian team, they are capable of getting wickets cheaply. But they threw away a golden opportunity of victory at Melbourne and as they were unfortunate enough to get caught on a real "sticky" at Brisbane they are now four down with one to play.

Of course it will long be argued in the English camp that Hutton's dismissal in the first innings of the Second Test at Melbourne should not have been. Various reports suggest that he played the ball with his pad and that it did not touch his bat before he was adjudged caught at the wicket. But the umpire was on the spot and his decision was that Tallon had made a legitimate catch.

Partly as a result of this incident, but mainly because of many similar cases where questionable decisions have been made, the suggestion has been put forward that umpires from a neutral country should be appointed to stand for a Test series.

The idea is that two South African umpires should be appointed for the England-Australia series. Personally I feel that is making too much of a fuss. I am sure that W. G. Grace if he were alive would consider it "definitely not cricket."

## MAILEY'S SUGGESTION

A far more interesting suggestion however, has been resurrected by Arthur Mailey, the former Australian googly bowler. Writing in the London "Evening Standard" Mailey suggests that cricket legislators, instead of discussing the ques-

tion of covered wickets to equalise the luck of the pitch, should consider allowing the respective captains to have alternate choice after the first toss.

The idea, of course, is that in any one series of five Tests, the team winning the toss on the first occasion would have the choice of batting or fielding in the first, third and final games, and the other team would have the choice for the second and fourth.

I think that Mailey's suggestion is basically sound. It would mean that no team could have the worst of the conditions for more than three games. Thus it would tend, overall, to place more emphasis on cricketing skill and not nearly so much on the toss of a coin, which after all is only the means of starting a game.

But a former England captain with whom I discussed the idea was not altogether in agreement with Mailey's suggestion. He admitted that there were several sound arguments in favour of it but thought it would tend to "mechanise" the game to a far greater extent than was good.

He was willing to agree that no team deserved to have first choice of batting or fielding on five occasions, as when the Hon. F. S. Jackson won the toss on every occasion in 1905 against Australia.

But as he pointed out, such incidents are rare. Indeed only on two other occasions has it happened. G. H. Deane did it for South Africa against England in 1927-28 and John Goddard, the West Indies skipper, had the luck against India in 1948-49.

## EVENED OUT?

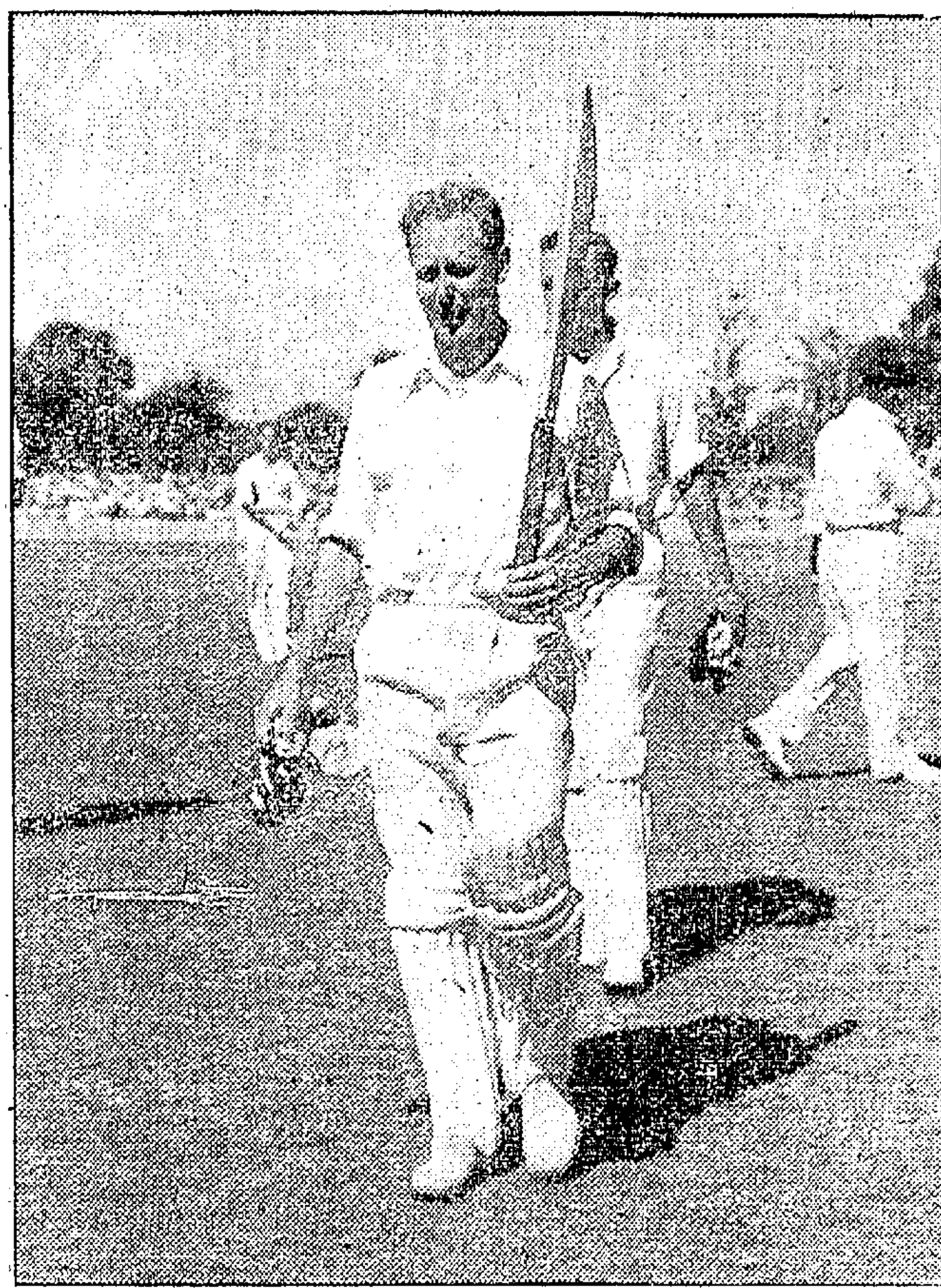
As an experienced campaigner himself, he believed that the luck of the toss evened itself out. His suggestion to avoid unfair advantages was not to play Tests on grounds where experience has shown that at certain seasons the

elements can produce unplayable wickets.

But still the fact remains that by calling "heads" instead of "tails," a captain can jeopardise his team's chances of success. The responsibility is heavy and a captain out of luck can often be worth 100 runs to the opposition.

On many English cricket grounds the old horse-drawn roller has been replaced by a mechanically operated one. Perhaps it is not too much to expect that we shall soon see the game "mechanised" in another department.

—(London Express Service).



Arthur Morris leaves the field at the end of Australia's first innings in the Fourth Test at Adelaide, having just been bowled by Tattersall. He had been in long enough, scoring 206 runs. Behind him is Jack Iversen.

# Lighten The Weight Of The Big Fellows' Jobs

Says RAYMOND GLENDENNING

I'll probably shock you when I say let's have an extra weight division in professional boxing! Why?

Just because we in this country never seem to breed a real heavyweight—Jack Gardner is the exception.

For many years we have had to watch great-hearted fighters like Jack Petersen, Len Harvey and Freddie Mills giving away lumps of weight, and losing their chances of a world title as a result.

I believe it's asking too much for anyone just over the 12st. 7lb. mark to be classed as a heavyweight and matched with the 15 or 16st. boys all the time.

I know the old edict "Any man over 12 stone should be able to lick the lot," but the Charlie Mitchells only appear once in a century. Far truer is Barrington Dalby's pet maxim "A good big 'un will always beat a good little 'un!" Hence my strong plea for an extra weight division.

Last time the European Boxing Union met there was a lukewarm discussion on the point, but nothing came of it.

Now that the British Boxing Board has set up a medical commission to study and give recommendations on such problems as the type of stimulants to be allowed and the correct first-aid treatment for cut eyes, etc., I suggest they make this item number one on their next agenda.

## TEN FOR AMATEURS

The Amateur Boxing Association, of course, have already their scale of weights on purely medical grounds.

There are now ten divisions in the amateur game, and the introduction of light-welter and light-middleweight classes has reduced the margin of weight advantage all round, which is a good thing for growing lads fighting for fun.

Professionals shouldn't need such tender treatment, and to those who will raise the cry that any alteration in weights will upset the record books and stop anybody comparing boxers of today with those of the past, I offer a simple solution.

Leave all the divisions up to middleweight (11st. 6lb. and under) as they are. Call the 12st. 7lb. brigade cruiserweights, as indeed they are often known now, and create a new light-heavy class of 13st. 10lb. and under. Anyone over that would remain a true heavyweight.

## FORMER RIVALS

Shades of the past! Next month Harringay stages a Jack Doyle v. Eddie Phillips return match. Last time they met in this ring was on September 27, 1938.

Then Doyle went through the ropes in the second round, and couldn't get back inside the allotted ten seconds.

Either or both of them may go through the ropes again this time, but without the same serious penalty, for the 19st. 5lb. Darling of Cork will be wrestling for supremacy against the 17½st. Bow landlord.

Anyway, wrestling has one big advantage over boxing as far as heavyweights are concerned. They can at least start as well as finish "on the floor."

## ATHLETIC CLASSICS

The fact that athletics is staging no big Festival of Britain international meeting doesn't mean that the organisers are idle. One look at team manager Jack Crump's diary will reassure you.

True the AAA are not proposing any special Festival meetings in name, but when it is realised that there are al-

ready twenty big events, including the Yale and Harvard v. Oxford and Cambridge clash, and for the first time a two-day match against France plus the fact that practically every town in the country is having its own fixture you'll see the reason for no extra international dates.

In addition the AAA are sending representative teams to Cardiff, Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool and Bradford, also to Cannock, where a new track is being opened.

Don't forget, too, that 1951 is pre-Olympic year, and in order to give our athletes the best competitive experience the AAA will tour Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia before coming back for the floodlit matches at White City in September.

# Still Short Of Wicketkeeper

London, Feb. 20. Harold Stephenson, the Somerset wicketkeeper, who flew to India in December to reinforce the Commonwealth cricket team, arrived back by air today.

His early return has been caused by a severe strain which has not responded to treatment. Later this week he will undergo a full examination to decide whether an operation will be necessary to enable him to resume county cricket at the beginning of the season.—Reuter.

## Commonwealth XI In Holiday Mood Cricket

Kandy, Feb. 20.

The Commonwealth touring side were in holiday mood for the match with a strong Ceylon Central Province's XI which began here today.

Winning the toss they sent in the home side to bat on an easy paced wicket and met with early successes. But when rain ended play for the day at the tea interval the home side had made 276 runs for nine wickets.

Dovey had the opening batsmen in difficulties with his accurate bowling and was mainly responsible for four wickets falling before lunch for a mere 40 runs. He claimed three of them for 18 runs.

However, Paulett, one of the opening batsmen, found a partner who was equally stubborn in Werapitiya and the pair took the score to 115 runs at lunch without further loss.

Ridgway broke the partnership after it had added 94 runs and taken the score to 134 runs by bowling Werapitiya. Ridgway then quickly claimed two further wickets. He dismissed Paulett, who made a gallant 58 runs, which included six fours and another batsman at the same total of 145 runs.

Burah came to the rescue of the home side by knocking up a fast 54 runs, which included eight fours. He put on 64 runs with Izzadeen for the eighth wicket and 62 runs with Rulach for the ninth wicket.

Ridgway's final analysis for the day was four wickets for 89 runs while Dovey claimed three wickets for 35 runs.

George Duckworth, former England and Lancashire wicketkeeper and manager of the touring side, took up his old role for the first time on the tour. The scoreboard showed 26 extras.—Reuter.

## Japs Get Chance To Show Their New Democracy

Tokyo, Feb. 20.

The first Asiatic athletic meet in India will give the Japanese a chance to exhibit their new democracy, according to an editorial in the Mainichi, Japan's leading newspaper.

The editorial said the New Delhi games were important because they will give the Japanese a chance to practise sportsmanship along with other nations at the event which transcends race, religion and customs.

The Mainichi said the Japanese people should be grateful to India for overcoming the difficulties connected with Japan's invitation. It said they also should appreciate the efforts of General MacArthur's headquarters and its understanding which made it possible for Japan to be represented.—United Press.



## FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

## Scrap Shortage In Europe May Cramp Steel Industry

Geneva, Feb. 20.

Experts here consider that the scrap market in Europe has to be organised in some way if the whole steel industry is not to be cramped.

According to their estimates, scrap available in Europe is tight, but not so short as it looks on the market.

## Freezing Of Prices In Brazil

Rio De Janeiro, Feb. 20.

Senhor Benjamin Soares Cabello, new Vice-President of Brazil's Central Price Commission, has proposed that the prices of food, utilities and services should be frozen at their January 31 level.

Salaries would not be included.

He suggested that the Government should buy on a non-profit basis on the food and basic materials markets.

Transport and food syndicates should plan with the Commission to ensure adequate supplies, and a cereals and food exchange should be set up here, he said.—Reuter.

## Singapore Rubber Futures

Singapore, Feb. 20.

Prices of rubber futures closed here today as follows:

Number 1 rubber, per lb.	230-230½
February	223-223½
March	221-222
February 2 rubber	219-220
February 3 rubber	199-200
February 4 rubber	223-224
Spot rubber, unbleached	184-240
Black crepe	235-240
No. 1 pale crepe	—United Press.

## New York Sugar Futures

New York, Feb. 20.

World sugar futures closed today unchanged to 2 higher, with sales totalling 542 contracts.

Contract No. 6 closed today 2 to 3 higher.

Prices closed today as follows:

Contract No. 4 (world)	4.88 nominal
March	5.90 traded
May	4.91
July	4.92
September	4.85
Spot	4.85
Contract No. 6	5.41 bid
May	5.51 traded
July	5.55 bid
September	5.40
Spot	—United Press.

## New York Rubber Futures

New York, Feb. 20.

Trading in spot and futures markets for natural rubber remained at a practical standstill gain. On the Commodity Exchange Incorporated, the market closed 200 points lower, half points higher on bid prices, with no actual sales materialising.

Prices closed today as follows:

Spot	74
March	73.00 bid
May	70.00 bid
July	63.00 bid
Spot	—United Press.

## London Rubber

London, Feb. 20.

Prices of rubber futures closed here today as follows:

Number 1 rubber, in cents per lb.	71½-72½
April/June	65½-66
July/September	59½-60½
October/December	55½-56
—United Press.	

## LONDON TIN MARKET

London, Feb. 20.

Tin prices again improved today, with turnover only 60 tons, including 15 tons for spot.

Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:

Spot tin, buyer	1,525
Spot tin, seller	1,530
Business done at	1,525-1,530
Three-months tin, buyer	1,460
Three-months tin, seller	1,465
Business done at	1,460
Settlement	1,530
—United Press.	

## KEN SMITH'S Shownews

## THE BOY BORN TO BE KIM IS NOW A BARMAN IN A SOUTH LONDON PUB

THE boy who might have been as famous today as Jackie Coogan, Freddie Bartholomew or John Howard Davies slipped quietly into a West End cinema to see the film that should have made him a star.

He is John England, "the boy born to be Kim." The cinema is the Empire, Leicester-square; the film, Kipling's "Kim."

From his seat John remembered nostalgically the events that robbed him of a great career.

It began in 1936, when John, aged five, was hailed as a great child star, given a five-year contract and a role in a George Formby film.

But the law forbade child actors in British pictures and in 1938 M.G.-M. tempted John to think of going to Hollywood to play Kim.

Sir Frederick O'Connor, Kipling's great friend, said John was "born to be Kim"; Stanley Grimm painted his portrait as Kim; and Queen Mary wrote John's father:

"I shall be glad to know if John is to play Kim—a truly delightful part. It would be most satisfactory if a British boy was chosen."

But the picture was shelved. The war came. John grew up. So did Freddie Bartholomew, Tommy Kelly, Roddy McDowall and Mickey Rooney—all named as John's successors.

The final choice: 14-year-old Dean Stockwell.

And John? He is a barman in a South London pub. His chance of film fame has passed him by.

SAM GOLDWYN cabled Noel (Cage Me A Peacock) Langley, an offer of 50,000 dollars if he would write the screenplay of the Danny Kaye-Moira Shearer film *Hans Andersen*. A copy of the script, plus request for a criticism and some ideas, accompanied the offer.

Noel wrote five pages of suggestions, received the reply: "Please elucidate."

Exasperated, he cabled: "Deal off. If you don't understand me

## JAPAN'S DYE INDUSTRY

Tokyo, Feb. 21.

Japan's dye industry is slated to reach new highs in production this year, according to the economic Journal, Nihon Keizai.

Said this optimistic outlook is based on a two-fold jump in domestic demand and three-fold rise in exports in December last year over last summer.

In view of increasing demand, manufacturers are said to be trying to boost the production to 7,000 tons this year. However, they believe that the production goal may reach 10,000 tons before the end of the fiscal year of 1950.—United Press.

## Black Pepper Market

New York, Feb. 20.

Spice dealers reported a considerable "dickering" in the black pepper market, although actual trading remained on the quiet side. Spot supplies remained nominally unchanged at \$1.90 a pound. Trade sources reported London bidding 1.57 for March shipment but with little success.—United Press.

## Seeds And Oils

New York, Feb. 20.

Prices in the seeds and oils market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions:

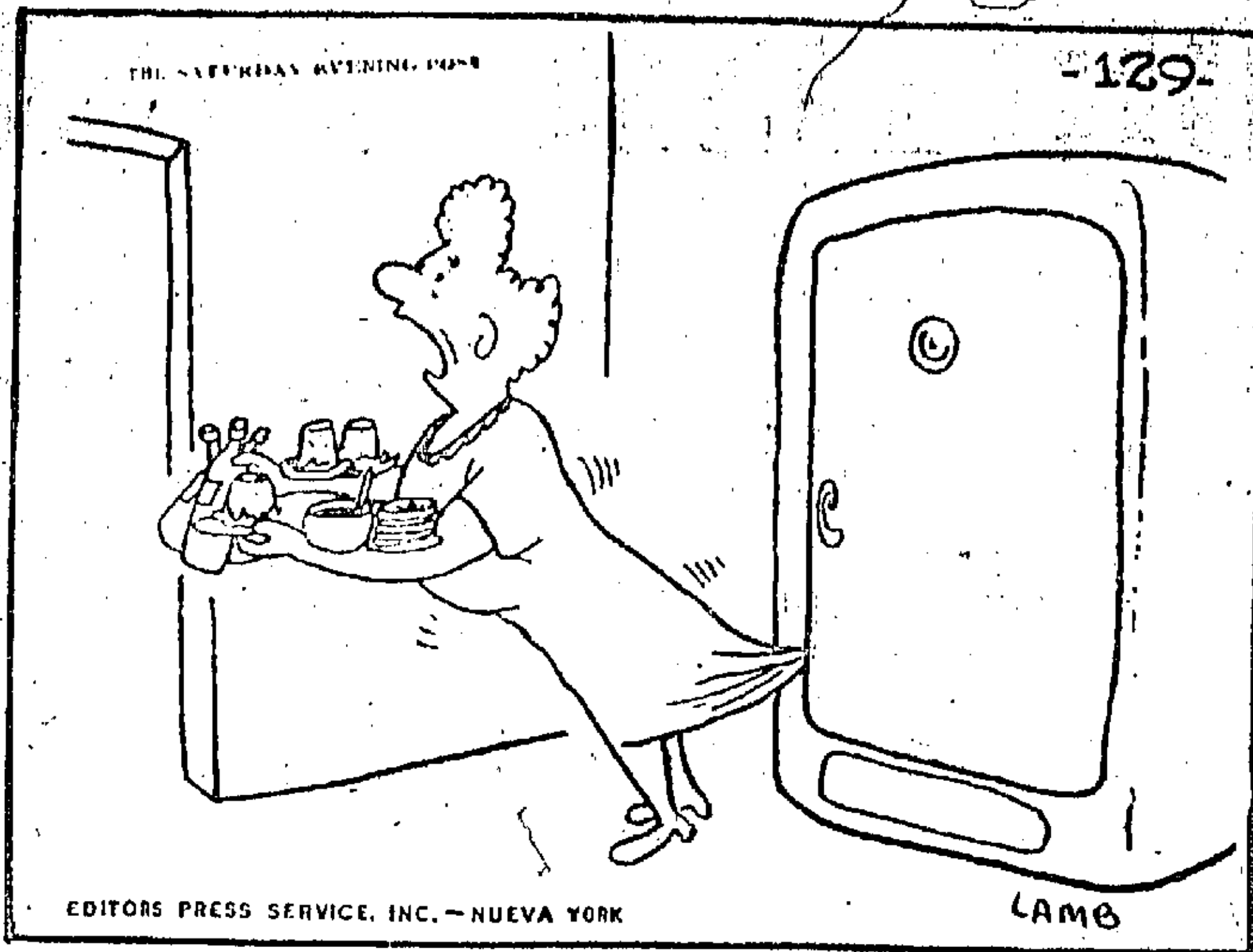
Tung Oil, in tank cars, F.O.B. New York, per lb.	39½
Castor Seed, per long ton, F.O.B. Brazilian Port	275-280 nominal
—United Press.	

## India Trade Talks

New Delhi, Feb. 20.

An Iraqi trade delegation under the former Finance Minister, Ali Mumtaz, now in New Delhi, is expected to begin trade talks with Indian Government officials here tomorrow.

The delegation arrived two days ago. — Reuter.



"Henry!"

in five pages, what will you do when you get a script of 150 pages?"

SAN FRANCISCO film critics have picked their "worsts" for 1950. Their choices? Worst female performance: Hedy Lamarr in *Samson And Delilah*; worst male performance: Mickey Rooney in *The Fireball*. Worst film: *The Black Rose*. How right they are!

IVOR NOVELLO, holidaying in Jamaica, is writing a new comedy—for Barry Sinclair, who has understudied him for 15 years.

TREVOR HOWARD, filming in Colombo, wanted to see his wife, Helen Cherry, filming at Elstree. So he went to the local cinema and saw Helen's last film. Its title? *"They Were Not Divided."*

ASKING for trouble—a music company's latest song is called *"Save That Golden Corn."*

OVERHEARD after a dismal Press show: Apologetic producer: "Of course, it was filmed on a shoe-string."

Unimpressed critic: "The best companies use celluloid."

## STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: North

Game all

N.	K 10 7 6
E.	9
S.	A J 5 3
W.	K Q 10 8
N.	8 3 2
E.	Q J 8 5 3
S.	9 8 7 2
W.	J 9 5 4 3 2
N.	A Q J 9 6
E.	A 10 6 4 2
S.	A 7
W.	

This grand slam was missed in Room 1 because South did not care to force with a singleton Diamond. North bid One Diamond. South One Spade. North Two Spades, the partnership finally reaching a small slam contract.

In Room 2 North bid One Club. South Two Spades, and North jumped to Four Spades. South then bid Four No Trumps (Culbertson convention) on the strength of his three Aces, and North's response of Five No Trumps showed A and two black Kings. South made a further cue bid of Six Diamonds and jumped to Seven Spades over North's reply of Six Hearts.

West led A K and after one round of trumps South ruffed three Hearts in Dummy, returning to his hand with A and two Diamonds. The last Heart going on K.

London Express Service.



"All right. You beat a woman in a green hat to it by the skin of your teeth—and now tell me what you're going to do with it."



# BRITISH PORTS DISORGANISED

## Wave Of Industrial Unrest: Railway Movement Slowed Down

### "Go Slow" By Engineers In North And Ulster

London, Feb. 20.

A new wave of industrial unrest sweeping Britain today disorganised four key ports and slowed down the movement of freight on the railways.

#### Over 200 Dead In Blizzard

Tokyo, Feb. 20.

The Japanese Maritime Safety Board officials in Yokohama today abandoned all hopes for the safety of 209 persons on board nine vessels missing since the blizzard of Feb. 15.

The same snowstorm sank 165 fishing boats off the coast of Chiba Prefecture alone, causing an estimated 30 million yen loss.—Reuter.

#### YOUTHFUL OFFICER'S HEROISM

London, Feb. 20.

A young British army officer who though twice wounded continued to lead his platoon in a successful engagement against a superior Malayan guerilla force, has been awarded the Military Cross, the official London Gazette announced tonight.

He is Lieutenant John David Alan Linn, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, attached to the First Battalion, The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) whose home is at Kilmacollm, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

Lieutenant Linn was in command of a platoon which took part in an operation against a guerilla camp in the Maur district of Johore on Dec. 22 last. The camp was situated on high ground completely surrounded by swamp jungle, but Lieutenant Linn led his platoon straight to it. A fierce engagement was fought at close range and Lieutenant Linn, though wounded twice in the first few minutes, personally accounted for two of the enemy.

The battle raged for more than three hours before the enemy withdrew with considerable casualties.

Later, Lieutenant Linn organised the evacuation of his wounded and remained in command throughout the night attending stretcher cases and refusing medical attention for his own wounds until a relief party had arrived.—Reuter.

#### Impractical Suggestion

London, Feb. 20.

Leaders of other countries are not to be invited to the Festival of Britain because of the international situation, Mr Herbert Morrison, the Deputy Prime Minister, said today.

Mr Emrys Hughes, Labour, had suggested in the House of Commons that personal invitations should be sent to the leaders of other nations, including the Commonwealth Premiers, President Truman, the French President, M. Vincent Auriol, and the Soviet Premier, Marshal Stalin.

Mr Morrison said that these statesmen had heavy responsibilities. It would be impractical to arrange such important visits at this time much as the Government would like to.—Reuter.

In the Ports of London, Glasgow, Manchester and Birkenhead, over 18,000 dockers staged a one-day strike timed to coincide with the appearance in a London Court of seven unofficial strike leaders. The seven men are charged with inciting dockers to strike illegally.

The case was adjourned until last Tuesday and the strikers voted to return to work tomorrow and to come out again when the seven leaders reappear before the Court.

On the railways, more men decided today to begin "go-slow" tactics or to stage token strikes next week-end.

Trade union leaders and officials of the Railway Executive struggled against time at two London conferences to find a solution of the wages dispute, which has set off the chain of unofficial action.

Unless they can settle differences which have defeated all attempts at negotiation for more than a year, few trains are likely to run between midnight next Friday and midnight on Sunday.

In the North of England there was no sign of an end to the "go slow" movement of thousands of engineers who are dissatisfied with the effects of a new wage award.

In Glasgow 3,500 strikers at a Rolls-Royce factory decided to seek support among trade unionists in other factories, and in Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2,800 aircraft workers carried on a four weeks' old strike caused by the dismissal of ship stewards.

#### NOT ENOUGH

The trouble in the docks and on the railways stems from dissatisfaction with recent wage awards.

#### JAP TREATY FORECAST

Wellington, Feb. 20.

Mr John Foster Dulles, President Truman's special envoy, expects a peace treaty for Japan to be drafted soon after his return to Washington this week-end.

Mr Dulles was speaking at a Press conference at the end of his Pacific tour after consultations today with the New Zealand Government.

Mr Dulles said he had had many agreeable meetings with the Pacific nations and expected the Far Eastern Commission to draft a treaty as soon as he reported.

"I see no reason why the Soviet Union should not make peace with Japan on the same terms as the rest of us," he said. "There is nothing in the terms of the treaty which has been proposed that will not be acceptable to the Soviet—if she wishes to promote world peace."—Reuter.

#### Northolt Alarm

London, Feb. 20.

Fire engines and crash tenders rushed out to meet a Czech airliner from Prague when it landed at Northolt Airport today.

Airport officials had been warned by telephone that smoke was seen coming from the pilot's cockpit as the plane approached the airport, but no fire was found.

Two Russian couriers with diplomatic mail for the Soviet Embassy in London were aboard the plane.—Reuter.

The dockers have been given an extra two shillings a day and the trade union leaders have accepted it.

But three weeks ago about 11,000 dockers on Merseyside staged an unofficial strike to protest at the offer and the union's acceptance of it.

The railwaymen have been claiming increases ranging from seven and a half per cent to 15 per cent and have just been awarded an average of five shillings a week.

In this case, the trade unions concerned have rejected the offer but the men have gone ahead with their unofficial "go slow" and strike action without awaiting developments.—Reuter.

### Rejected Envoy May Get Post In Franco's Cabinet

Madrid, Feb. 20.

General Franco may reshuffle his Cabinet, bringing in as Foreign Minister Senor Fernando Maria Castiella, who was rejected by Britain as the Ambassador in London, usually reliable sources said here today.

The Cabinet has remained unchanged since 1945. Observers believe the reshuffle would be one of personalities but such political angle as there might be would reinforce and harden the policy and decline of the present regime.

They discount any suggestion of concessions to outside opinion.

It is thought that the portfolio of Foreign Affairs would console Senor Castiella, who is now Ambassador to Peru, for the British rebuff, apparently due to his prominence in the Falange Party and his having fought as a volunteer against Russia in World War II.

This would mean a rather rigid Falangist replacing the more flexible Catholic leader, Dr Alberto Martin, the present Foreign Minister, but as Franco himself closely controls foreign affairs, observers doubt if the change would mean much.

There was also a suggestion that Franco's elder brother, the present Ambassador in Lisbon, might become Inspector of Embassies with headquarters in London.

There was a precedent for this, as Senor Jose Felix de Lequerica, the new Ambassador to Washington, for several years carried out such a role in the United States.

The present Minister of Education, Senor Jose Banez Martin, might go to Lisbon

should such a development take place. The 37-year-old Senor Joaquin Ruiz Jimenez, the present Ambassador to the Vatican, might become Minister of Education.—Reuter.

### Japan's "No" To Rearming

Tokyo, Feb. 20.

The Japanese Premier, Mr Shigeru Yoshida, declared today that Japan neither wanted to rearm nor was economically capable of rearming.

He told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Japanese Diet, according to Japanese Press reports, that some foreign exponents of a Pacific Pact were advocating the inclusion of Japan in a military alliance as a means of holding Japan in check.

Certain foreign quarters which feared a resurgence of Japanese militarism were thinking of a Pacific Pact in terms of security not only for but also from Japan, he is reported to have said.

Japan had constitutionally relinquished the right of belligerency but had retained the right of self-defence, Mr Yoshida said. It was natural for Japan to be defended by foreign forces.—Reuter.



Auburn-haired Windmill girl, Rosalie Whitham, of Sheffield, heralds the 19th anniversary edition of Revudeville at London's home of non-stop revue, The Windmill Theatre.—Central Press

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#### NOTICE

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

The Board of Directors report that the net profit for the year ended 31st October, 1950, amounted to \$2,048,410 which, with the sum carried forward from last Account of \$234,076 makes available for appropriation \$2,282,486.

At the forthcoming Ordinary Yearly Meeting of shareholders the Directors will recommend that this sum be appropriated as follows:—

Transfer to General Reserve .....	\$ 750,000
To pay a dividend of \$3 per share, for the year, free of tax .....	1,350,000
and Carry Forward to next Account .....	182,486
	<b>\$2,282,486</b>

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